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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

43620

COUNTRY China

SUBJECT Economic Information; Conditions in Harbin

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ORIGIN

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This document is hereby regraded to
CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the
letter of 16 October 1973 from the
As Stated
As Stated
17 January 1947
PAGES 1
SUPPLEMENT

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1. The stores in Harbin are still full of Japanese goods, although Soviet soldiers bought great quantities while they were there. In general, commodities are relatively cheap, but prices seem high to the natives. Furs and wool rugs which were formerly made in Harbin are inexpensive.
2. The principal products seen in the city are grains and flour. Both are now plentiful and there is also an abundance of other foods.
3. Trade is at a standstill and Harbin is now economically stagnant. People are waiting for the day when business will improve and everyone is thinking in terms of trade.
Representatives of various foreign governments, such as the Danish, Soviets, etc., appear anxious to have the Nationalists control the city, since this would open facilities for trade.
4. Although the agricultural reform and educational programs are progressing well, there is considerable unemployment in the city.
Labor unions have been organized in most establishments and recently a labor council of all unions was formed.

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5. During September and October, conditions in Harbin deteriorated greatly. The principal cause of this was the withdrawal of important headquarters and organizations to Chiamussu (130-21, 46-49), and the purchasing by the Chinese Communists of all available cotton and clothing for their soldiers. This was done without consideration for the needs of the local population.

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